ARIZONA NEWS RELEASE

CONTACT: Steven Manheimer, Director 602-280-8850 or nass-az@nass.usda.gov

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Visit us online at www.nass.usda.gov/az

Press Release Announcement – (June 20, 2005)

- For Immediate Release -

ARIZONA CATTLE ON FEED INVENTORY UP 12 PERCENT FROM A YEAR AGO

Phoenix – On June 1, 2005, Arizona had 329,000 head of cattle on feed for the slaughter market, up 12 percent from a year ago. Placements last month totaled 32,000 head, 10 percent more than a year ago. During May, 29,000 head were marketed, 1,000 head less than the previous May. On June 1, 2005, California had 515,000 head of cattle on feed for the slaughter market, a decrease of 5,000 head from June 1, 2004. May placements totaled 82,000 head, down 9,000 head from May 2004. May marketings totaled 62,000 head, a decrease of 1,000 head from last May.

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 10.77 million head on June 1, 2005. The inventory was 1 percent above June 1, 2004 and 2 percent above June 1, 2003. Placements in feedlots during May totaled 2.22 million, 6 percent below 2004 and 4 percent below 2003. Net placements were 2.13 million. During May, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 435,000, 600-699 pounds were 390,000, 700-799 pounds were 663,000, and 800 pounds and

greater were 735,000. Marketings of fed cattle during May totaled 2.0 million, 1 percent below 2004 and 11 percent below 2003. Other disappearance totaled 96,000 during May, 22 percent above 2004 and 48 percent above 2003.